PUBLIC ACCESS FUNDING WINDOW

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT PUBLIC ACCESS Public Access Grant Proposals – GOALS & OBJECTIVES

July 2013

PUBLIC ACCESS as defined in A.R.S. § 17-296, means to provide entry to publicly held lands for recreational use where such entry is consistent with the provisions establishing those lands. Publicly held lands are those federal, public and reserved lands, State Trust Lands, and other lands within the state of Arizona, owned, controlled or managed by the United States, the State of Arizona, agencies or political subdivisions thereof.

Our intent is to fund PUBLIC ACCESS (ACCESS) projects that will give the greatest return for the Heritage funds invested consistent with the stated funding goals and objectives. For grant cycle year 2014 there is \$50,000 available to support ACCESS grant proposals submitted. ACCESS grant applicants can request a grant amount minimum of \$500 with no maximum amount set.

Projects for which ACCESS grant proposals are submitted must be consistent with one or more of the <u>Goals</u> listed below in order to be fully considered. For the 2014 grant cycle, priority will be given to proposals submitted meeting <u>Goal 4</u>, Education and Information outreach pertaining to public access in Arizona, and/or <u>Goal 6</u>, improved angler access as defined below. **NOTE:** Research projects are not applicable for this funding source. Where appropriate and feasible, projects should be designed and constructed to accommodate persons with disabilities.

- **GOAL 1:** Create, maintain or enhance wildlife-oriented recreational access (motorized or non-motorized) onto public or State Trust lands previously inaccessible to the public.
- **GOAL 2:** Obtaining perpetual or other long-term rights-of-way to secure public access for wildlife oriented recreation where it may be jeopardized by potential land development, energy development or other land status changes.
- **GOAL 3:** Create, maintain or enhance existing wildlife-oriented recreational access (motorized or non-motorized) onto public lands through improved design and construction methods.
- **GOAL 4:** Education and information outreach pertaining to public access in Arizona, including ethical and responsible use of private and public lands, and opportunities for volunteerism.
- **GOAL 5:** Realignments of existing access routes to protect sensitive habitat areas.
- **GOAL 6**: Projects that improve anglers' access to urban or community fishing waters, lakes with public access, streams with public access, and to other community waters used by anglers. Any project that improves angler access is allowed, including construction projects, leases, or other improvements that benefit angler access.

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